Please find below, Utah State Parks news for December 14:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 14, 2010

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- Boating Safety Tip of the Month
- Upcoming Utah State Parks Events

BOATING SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

Salt Lake City- As water temperatures drop significantly and ice begins to form on some reservoirs, Utah State Parks boating officials remind everyone to be aware of cold water dangers.

"You never know when you might end up in the water. Life jackets not only keep you afloat, but provide an extra layer of warmth," commented Assistant Boating Program Manager Chris Haller. "The combination of additional heat and flotation might mean the difference between life and death."

Haller recommends these cold water boating survival tips:

- Have a ladder or a method to re-board your boat
- Carry a signaling device, such as a mirror or flare gun
- Carry a cell phone or marine band radio with service where you boat
- Always tell someone your boating plans, including where you are going and when you plan to return
- Check local weather conditions before heading out
- Carry proper equipment onboard

For more information, visit stateparks.utah.gov or call 801-538-BOAT. Wear it Utah!

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UPCOMING UTAH STATE PARKS EVENTS

January 5 – February 26 Wasatch Mountain State Park - Midway Guided Snowshoe Hikes: Join the park naturalist Wednesdays through Saturdays for guided snowshoe hikes within the park. New snowshoers are welcome and will receive basic snowshoeing instructions. Please call the park to schedule a date and time. 435-654-1791

January 8 Jordanelle State Park -Heber

Learn to Snowshoe: Join the park naturalist from 10 a.m. to noon and learn the benefits of snowshoeing as a lifelong physical activity. Snowshoeing can contribute to increased cardiovascular endurance, flexibility and muscle endurance. Bring snowshoes or borrow a pair from the park. Pre-registration is required. 435-649-9540

January 8 Scofield State Park - Huntington

Ice Fishing Tournament: Scofield State Park hosts its fifth annual ice fishing tournament. Check-in begins at 6:30 a.m. and the tournament starts at 7:30 a.m. Registration is \$15 for adults and \$10 for youth 16 and younger. Door prizes and prizes for the five biggest fish will be awarded. Registration is limited to 200 anglers. 435-687-2491

January 8 Wasatch Mountain State Park - Midway

Learn to Snowshoe: Join the park naturalist from 10 a.m. to noon to learn the basics and the benefits of snowshoeing. Bring your own snowshoes or rent some from the park. Snowshoeing is a great winter activity for all ages. 435-654-1791

January 8 Wasatch Mountain State Park - Midway

Stars and Snow: Bundle up and join the naturalist in the visitor center at 6 p.m. for an evening learning about the winter night sky. We will spend some time indoors followed by a short snowshoe walk and constellation observation. Snowshoes and hot chocolate provided. 435-654-1791

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